

One thing I've learned from my years of public service is the importance of keeping people informed. That's been especially true since I signed on with MoDOT.

MoDOT's responsibility touches every Missouri citizen and visitor. Unlike many state agencies, which focus on helping specific groups or areas, transportation affects all of us. This means that when we reach out to Missourians, we've got to have everybody in mind.

That includes the person who wants to know about road construction, the one that wants to

learn about funding, the job seeker, legislator, businessperson, contractor, parent, student and traveler. We've got to make sure all these people know how a project is coming, where the roads are closed and how their money is being spent. It's all about accountability.

We have a variety of tools to get this job done. Our web site is an important one. In fact, we recently shortened our web address to make us easier to find – www.modot.org.

Pathways is another valuable tool for learning about Missouri transportation. MoDOT is about more than asphalt, steel and concrete. Pathways gives us an opportunity to show Missourians the other things we do for them and how transportation affects every area of life.

In this issue, you'll read about our Motorist Assist program and how it helps everybody on the road, not just the people broken down on the shoulder. You'll learn how and why MoDOT "digs" Missouri's past and helps preserve it for education of future generations.

You'll also be introduced to our first-response bridge-maintenance team. They're the ones that keep bridges safe and standing in an emergency.

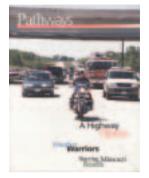
Finally, you can see how MoDOT uses federal enhancement funds to celebrate Missouri's history and make our roadsides more attractive and interesting. By law, these federal funds can't be spent on road construction or repair. They must go to beautifying or aesthetically improving our transportation system.

But communication isn't a one-way street. You've got to keep those letters coming in. We read every single one of them. Thanks for your interest.

Henry Hungerbeeler

Director

Missouri Department of Transportation



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## **Highway Gardens**

Just a short note to say I really enjoyed the Fall 2002 issue of *Pathways*. It was very well done and all those who had a part in getting it out should be very pleased with the work they did. I was especially interested in the article about the Highway Gardens. That no doubt is one of the best PR activities MoDOT has and again those connected with its success should be proud of those accomplishments. My best to all those involved and continued success in its publication.

Dave Snider Bella Vista, Ark.

## From Ghana to the Autobahn

Please put me on your mailing list. I enjoyed reading your magazine. The story on highways in Ghana, West Africa, was interesting. Having served time in Germany with the U.S. Army, maybe you could do a story on the Autobahn. They were like interstate highways. Having been raised in Silex, Missouri, U.S. 61 was our main highway.

Carroll L. Elmore St. Charles, Mo.

